

Glazer, and I am pleased to have Rabbi Glazer's tribute to Prime Minister Rabin entered into the RECORD.

STATEMENT BY RABBI MELVIN J. GLAZER
YITZHAK RABIN, MEMORIAL SERVICE, OLAM
TIKVAH NOV. 6, 1995

This morning on the radio, one of those who visited the Israel Embassy to pay his respects to Prime Minister Rabin, was asked the question, "why are you here?" to which he answered, with tears in his eyes and a lump in his throat, "because I care." And that is why we are here as well, because we care. We care about the State of Israel, and we care about the peace process. We care about a human life being snuffed out like a candle, and we care about a grieving wife and a family who have lost their husband, their father, their grandfather. We care about an entire nation of men and women who have lost their leader, their guide, their beacon.

Yitzhak Rabin was not killed by one man, even though only one man pulled the trigger. Yitzhak Rabin was killed by a group of fundamentalist Jews who simply could not accept the reality of the new world in which they lived. A little less than 2 weeks ago, Yitzhak Rabin was portrayed as a Nazi; several months ago a group of Orthodox rabbis said it was God's will not to obey the orders of Israel's military if you did not agree with them. In this week's issue of the Jerusalem Report, there is an article which tells of a Kabbalistic curse placed on the Prime Minister. He was cursed with "pula denura," lashes of fire, for his heretical policies. And so, say these mystics, he must die. As the Aramaic text stated, "we have permission to demand from the angels of destruction that they take a sword to this wicked man, to kill him, for handing over the Land of Israel to our enemies, the sons of Ishmael." This curse was issued on Yom Kippur, Oct. 4, and it was to take place with 30 days. Mr. Rabin was killed Nov. 4.

The stage had been ably set for the tragedy that was soon to become a reality. Violence, physical violence, was talked about openly, even encouraged, and the Prime Minister of the State of Israel was shot and killed.

How do we make sense out of this act which makes no sense at all? How could it happen? Our Tradition says plainly, Thou Shall Not Murder. Our Tradition says plainly, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Our Tradition says plainly, "these and these are the words of the living God. "But not everyone hears these words the same way. There are those who arrogate to themselves the truth, those who believe that theirs is the only way, the only interpretation, the only truth. There are those who forget that GOD is the only truth, and when we take on that role, life, all of life, is in jeopardy. Jewish fundamentalists, especially those who live in the State of Israel and who do not serve in the Israeli army or pay taxes to the state of Israel but who insist on proclaiming that the Messiah will come only when Israel gives in to their demands, perhaps should not be allowed to remain in the state of Israel. If these right-wing fanatics were non-Jews, we would rightfully, call them anti-Semites and demand they be banished.

Those Jews who kill, they are not our people, and they deserve none of our respect, only our contempt. I believe they should be expelled from decent society, they have no place among humanity. First we had Baruch Goldstein killing Moslems at prayer and now we have Yigal Amir killing our Prime Minister at a peace rally, both of them taking life into their own hands. Why should they and their supporters be allowed to remain? We do not need our own Jewish Hamas, they are a shame and a disgrace to every decent Jew and non-Jew on the face of this earth.

And even worse, they are shame and a disgrace to God, who surely cries at their narcissism even as he deplores their violence. Yitzhak Rabin stood for peace, they stand for taking human life. Yitzhak Rabin preached reconciliation, they take the law into their own hands. Yitzhak Rabin reached out his hand to his and our former enemies, they would live in a world of hatred forever. These are not our people, my friends. These Jews are to be rejected and expelled and shamed by the rest of us. We must not let ourselves ever become like them, otherwise they will win, and we can never, ever let that happen.

That is why the peace process will go on. Rabin was a warrior for peace, and now there will be others who will take his place. But he was the first. He was the man who liberated the Kotel, the Western Wall of the Temple in 1967, and he is the man who shook Arafat's hand and began the search for peace in earnest. He will be remembered not as a martyr, but as a peacemaker, as a head of state, as a loving husband, a caring father and a doting grandfather.

One or two concluding thoughts. I remember where I was the day President Kennedy was shot, as I suspect you do as well. I look back upon the past 32 years since that terrible day, and I see here in the United States the steady rise of violence, political, racial and marital. Kennedy's assassination made the unthinkable suddenly thinkable. I am sacred, no, I am terrified that that same tolerance and acceptance for violence will now come to the Jewish state as it came to America. If anything could possibly be worse than the death of Yitzhak Rabin, that would be it. I pray that sanity will prevail, that Israelis will stop and reflect, and let Yitzhak Rabin the peacemaker be their teacher in death even as he was in life. He stood for peace, we can do no less.

Finally, I am touched by so many expressions of mourning and sympathy shown the Jewish people and the State of Israel from around the world. In Israel itself, more than 1 million people came to the Knesset in Jerusalem to say goodbye to their leader. That is 1/5 the population of the entire nation. I see them, and I am proud. I see them and I am hopeful. Perhaps there is hope. Perhaps the good people of Israel will yet rise up to support the hard choices of peace rather than the easy way of killing and death. Perhaps we will yet see peace in our lifetime between the children of Israel and the children of Ishmael. If so, and I pray for that peace daily, as I am sure you do, then once again God's Chosen People will have been a light unto the nations, showing the world that hatred need not last forever, that peace is the handiwork of God and the gift to our children and their children after them. What a fitting memorial that would be for our beloved Yitzhak Rabin, to know that his efforts brought the world closer to God's gift of shalom. I pray that it come to pass soon.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE PEREZ

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 1995

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give recognition to an individual that has demonstrated strong commitment to the improvement of education in California. In December, Ms. Louise Perez will be completing a year as president of the California School Boards Association [CSBA], after several years in leadership positions with that organization. She is the first

Hispanic woman to serve as the CSBA president. I know that through her work with CSBA, Ms. Perez has had a very positive impact on California's education system.

In addition to this statewide leadership role, Ms. Perez has been a trustee of the Sacramento City Unified School District since 1982. She is also the executive director of Sacramento's Community Resource Project, Inc., a nonprofit organization involved in housing and education issues. Previously, she worked as a program developer for the California Department of Aging and as a work experience coordinator for the Washington Unified School District in Yolo County, CA. She has also served on the State House Conference on Aging and the State House Conference on Children and Youth.

Although these professional roles represent a very significant contribution to the community, Ms. Perez has not been satisfied with this work alone. She has taken on a variety of other community service projects including involvement with the Education Committee of the Cal-Neva Community Action Association, the Private Industry Council, the Sacramento County Affirmative Action Committee, the Junior Women's League, the Child Abuse Task Force of Sacramento County, the Mayor's Committee on Hispanic Affairs, and the Mayor's Committee on Child Care.

Ms. Perez' achievements have been recognized by a variety of organizations. She has been honored as the Sacramento YWCA's Woman of the Year and Mujer Inc.'s Hispanic Woman of the Year. She has also received the Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Education Award from the California Department of Justice, the Community Service Award from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Outstanding Contribution to Head Start from Sacramento Employment and Training.

As we approach the 21st century, California and the Nation face serious challenges in the area of education. The dedication of individuals like Louise Perez will be absolutely essential if we are to achieve our goals in this area, which is so vital to our future well-being. In her role as CSBA president, she has called on all of us to recommit ourselves and take responsibility for the education of all of our Nation's children. I thank Ms. Perez for her efforts in delivering this vitally important message and deeply hope that her call will be answered.

COL. DAVID A. NAPOLIello, HONORABLE SOLDIER AND PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 1995

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to a fellow Vietnam War veteran and a dedicated member of the U.S. Army upon his retirement after more than 27 years of dedicated service to his country. Colonel Napoliello is most deserving of our tribute. His career accomplishments reflect the type of military leader this Nation has depended upon for over 20 years in both war and peace. I would like to take a few minutes to highlight Dave's career milestones.